

III. REMARKS

A. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6, 8-16 and 32-48 were allowed.

Claims 17-31 were canceled by the Examiner.

Entry of the foregoing Amendment and Response is respectfully in order and requested.

Applicants assert that *no new matter* has been added by these proposed amendments.

Accordingly, upon the entry of the proposed amendment and response, claims 1-6, 8-16 and 32-48 will be allowed.

B. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.312

Applicants proposed amendment to paragraphs [0044] and [0045] of the specification pursuant 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 is accompanied herewith by the payment of the Issue Fee.

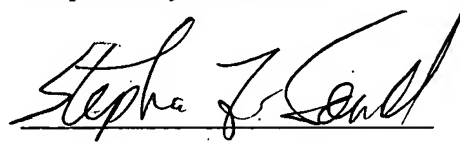
The proposed amendment serves only to clarify in the specification what the reference numbered components 20A and 21A shown in Figure 11 as originally filed, are referencing. Accordingly, Applicants propose amending the specification such that reference number 20A denotes a filter plate (currently, also designated as “20” in FIGS. 1 and 3-8, and “20B” in FIGS. 12 and 13), and reference number 21A denotes wells in the filter plate (currently, also designated as “21” in FIGS. 1 and 3-10).

IV. CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully contend that this proposed amendment does not alter the substance of the application or the scope of the claims, and *does not add any new matter*. It is respectfully submitted that the claims remain allowable without further search or consideration.

Therefore, entry of this proposed amendment is appropriate under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 , and is respectfully requested. If however the Examiner believes that some requirement has been missed or not completely answered, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

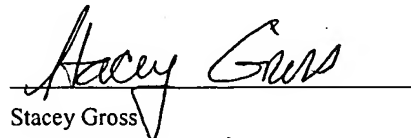


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on **March 26, 2009**.


Stacey Gross